KISS

EXPOSED

KISS ASYLUM

Interview with KISS

Interview with Bruce

THE KISS ASYLUM

THE KISS ASYLUM is an international fanclub, from fans for fans.

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EXPOSED is a fanmagazine dedicated to the hottest band in the world: KISS!

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SPECIAL THANKS

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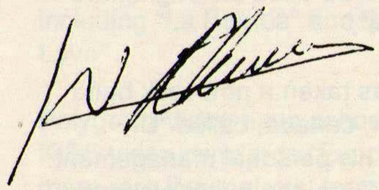
We'd also like to thanks everybody for being so patient with us and hanging on, thanks a million!

Front cover photos - Eric: Nicola Ciccarone, Gene: Yoko Haga, Paul + Bruce: Nelson Mare/KISS Alliance
Back cover photos - Paul: Nelson Mare/KISS Alliance, Bruce: Nicola Ciccarone, Eric: Nicola Ciccarone, Gene: Dan Starr

EDITOR'S PAGE

Hi!
Forgive us for the very long delay of this magazine, we are very sorry and we promise this won't happen again. We have had troubles with our U.S. contact and the mail service in Denmark. We have a new U.S. address from now on and we reckon that it might be better when people in Scandinavia send their money by eurocheque made out in Dutch money or by registered mail to our Benelux address until the problems have been solved with the mail service.
Like we mentioned in our first issue, the membershippacks will be sent out along with issue 3. As we intended to have the photos for the packs printed on thick paper, similar to large postcards, we thought it should be better to publish our magazines with a full colour cover in the future instead of including the photos in the pack. In this way you will get more photos in colour. If everything will go right we should still be able to send you some genuine photos at the end of the year, in a smaller size however. We hope you agree with our idea and if you don't, please let us know and we'll compromise.
We received some negative reactions concerning the comic. This time we didn't print another part because we didn't have enough space and also because of these reactions. But we'd like to know whether everyone thinks the comic takes too much space and that it shouldn't be continued. What would you think of the whole comic being printed in book form? Please let us know, we'd like to hear more suggestions from your side.
Most people suggested to do a pen-pal section. So everyone who wants to put a small ad in our next issue, please send it to me (Ico) and it'll be printed for free. Please don't use too many words, so we can print as many ads as possible
KISS is currently working in the studios and will release a new studio album around May with a world tour to follow, starting in the U.S. around June. It's to be expected that the band will hit Europe at the end of this year again. The tour and Monsters Of Rock shows from August 'till October went really well for them and Gene said the band would be back in Europe before we'd even know!
We hope you will enjoy this magazine. It is better than issue 1 in our view and we worked on it very hard. There's a lot to read this time and there are over 20 photos in total. Especially for our American members we have reciews of the Donington festival and the London shows. And we have been able to get 3 interviews! Enjoy it all and please let us know when you have ideas to make this magazine even better. Please help to make this club the biggest in the world. We really need your help. Please join! We need more members very badly, otherwise we can't keep up the quality of our magazine. Convince yourself and take a good look at this issue and decide for yourself that you have to join the club right away. Don't hesitate, send your name and address along with a money order or cheque to your country's address and be part of it all!
Once again, we are very sorry about the long delay. We just hope that this issue will make it up to you a little. Thanks to everyone for hanging on, you're the greatest! Take care and keep KISSin'! Until next time!



Ico van Rheenen
(chief editor)

★★SHORT NEWS★★

The Vinnie Vincent Invasion has officially been disban. The band played their last concert at the Celibrity Theatre in Anaheim, CA on August 26. Both Mark Slaughter and Dana Strum stated Vinnie's ego got a little out of hand. "We really believed in the band and we have always been behind concluded that this wasn't what we wanted, neither expected", they said. Mark and Dana are putting together a new band and writing material for an album, which will be released through Chrysalis Records. Drummer Bobby Rock might join his mates in the band or do a solo project. Vinnie has been dropped by Chrysalis Records and seems to keep himself from the press lately. He is said to be putting together a new band and writing mateial for an album, but nothing has been confirmed.

Dan Strum produced the second album of the band Kuni. The album is titled "Lookin' For Action" and has received some very good critics, partly because of Dana's production work.

Vinnie has written a couple af songs for Peter Criss, which might be used for an upcoming project by the Catman. He also wrote a song called "make Me Play" with Bangles vocalist Vicki Peterson, which appeared on their latest album, on which Vinnie also gave them a hand by playing 12 string-guitar.

"Love Kills" the second single from the Vinnie Vincent Invasion's album "All Systems Go" will be used on "Nightmare On Elm Street 4".

Paul Stanley has taken a new rock band from Vancouver, canada, called "Unchained" under his personal management. Paul met Berry Daro, the guitar player on the "Crazy Night" tour. After hearing the demo's he decided he wanted to work with them. He'll be producing the band's debut album.

A couple of bands have recently recorded versions of some KISS classics; Adrenalin O.D., a hardcore band recorded a rendition of "Detroit Rock City" on a recent 12" called "Theme From An Imaginary Midget Western", while Death Angel, a thrash band from California, remade the classic "Cold Gin for their second album "Frolic Through The Park". Anthrax, the popular speed band from Brooklyn, who opened for KISS on the U.S. tour, recorded the Ace Frehley classic "Parasite", but the song didn't make it to their latest album "State Of Euphoria", but will be used as a B-side for an upcoming single.

Eric Carr will be producing a band called "Hari Kari", which will be his debut production, because he never got to produce the album by "New York".

KISS' show at Rhode Island was a gigantic succes. No less than 30.000 fans packed the stadium!

Whilst in New York, KISS played 2 club shows at the "Ritz" on August 12 and 13. Tickets at a price of $20.00 sold out very fast.

Paul and Gene were backstage at a recent Robert Plant/Cheap Trick gig at Madison Square Garden.

Gene attended the star studded premiere of "Die Hard", a film featuring "Moonlighting" star Bruce Willis.

Gene turned down the offer to play the villian in the new James Bond film. "No more bad guys for me" Gene commented.

Paul and Gene appeared on "The Late Show" where famed Dr. Joyce Brothers gave them the "Sex-Test"- they passed.

Frehley's Comet left the Iron Maiden tour before it officially ended. Shows were cancelled and dates switched around. The group are going into the studio in February to record the third studio LP. A new video is scheduled for early 1989. It will include the video's from the singles:"Into The Night", "Rock Soldiers", "Insane" and "It's Over Now".

Paul brought new girlfriend Samantha Fox along to the Monsters Of Rock festival KISS played and the couple were on holiday in Holland between the festival dates and KISS European tour. Paul met Sam only a few weeks before they came to Europe.

KISS played a very succesful gig in Budapest, Hungary with Metallica opening for them, on September 3. It was the first time they played in Eastern Europe. Since the huge and totally wild crowd couldn't understand English Paul's raps were falling a little bit flat, but Gene caught on to this and started to introduce the songs in Hungarian! The band also played in Reykjavik, Iceland, another exotic place they had never been before.

In Modena, Italy KISS made it hot for headliner Iron Maiden. KISS who were second on the bill won the audience with a great concert. The set was made longer, as one of the support bands was cancelled. "Firehouse" and "I Was Made For Lovin' You" were added and made the crowd go out of their mind. Also at the other festivals in Germany, Holland and U.K. the band proved they could easily compete with Iron Maiden and David Lee Roth. KISS seemed to have won a lot of hearts of the 300.000 people in total they played for at the 4 festivals.
The European tour was very succesful. In the U.K. and in Scandinavia most shows sold out, which speaks for itself.

45 minutes of KISS' 1-hour concert at the Monsters Of Rock festival in Schweinfurt, Germany was broadcasted on TV by RTL+ Luxemburg.

Ad van Osch

Like on the U.S. tour KISS brought along keyboard player Gary Corbett to augment the sound, especially with tracks like "Reason To Live".

At Castle Donington KISS played "Calling Dr, Love", which was the only time during the whole tour they played the song. In Birmingham and a couple of other shows the band played some amazing encores, including "La Bamba" and "Whole Lotta Love"

Polygram Video have scheduled a new KISS video, similar to "Exposed", with more rare live material form the very early days up to the present and interviews. It

is said to be out very shortly. KISS' most recent video "Crazy Nights" sold very well and hit the top 10 of video sales in no time.

Gene has received great reactions in loads of magazines for his own record label Simmons Records, exclusively distributed by RCA Records, who will market Gene's material and artists worldwide. Gene seems to have discovered another band that will do well in the business, like the band he has previously dicovered, like Van Halen and Cinderella- not exactly small names. The new and the first band that Simmons Records is marketing is called House Of Lords, with keyboard player
Giuffria. Gene worked as an executive producer on the album.
The band as well as the album are very highly recommended in every magazines.

Mark St. John flew to New York City and completed his Hot Licks video in November! It promises to be an incredible instructional video, and is scheduled to be released in March 1989. For those who have never seen Mark play- you have been warned! Amazing! For more information on the video, write Hot Licks Video at:
HOT LICKS PRODUCTIONS, INC. P.O. BOX 337, POUNDRIDGE, NY 10576 USA.

Look for a possible solo instrumental album from Mark St. John in the first half of 1989! He is currently speaking with several interested labels about the project. mark will continue to work with his band after completing the solo album.

"Smashes, Thrashes & Hits" is the third compilation album already, not counting "The Best Of..." and "The Singles", an album released in Australia only. An album that takes us from the early days to the present.
The album kicks off with "Let's Put The X In Sex", a song written and produced by Paul, as well as the other new song on the record "(You Make Me) Rock Hard". Both songs were recorded at the Right Track Studios in July. They're both groovy and have a catchy chorus line. KISS used synths again, like on "Crazy Nights" and we can expect to hear them on the new album as well.
The rest of the songs lead us from the very beginning with songs like "Strutter" and "Rock And Roll All Night" to recent hits like "Tears Are Falling", "Reason To Live" and "Crazy Crazy Nights". Both songs from the "Crazy Nights" album are not recorded on the U.S. album, but instead there are 2 of the best old tracks by Gene, "Deuce" and "Calling Dr. Love". The latter is the bonus track on the European CD. The song were remixed, which is most of all noticeable in the CD. For instance a lot of echo has been added to "Love Gun", the so wonderful drumsound of "I Love It Loud" has been reduced in volume and power, "Shout It Out Loud" has got a different ending and "Heaven's On Fire" has turned more powerful.
The highlight of the album is definitely "beth" with Eric on vocal. The first time Eric has made it to vinyl on lead vocal and what a statement he has made, because everyone LOVES it. It can't be denied that he is a super vocalist and everyone, including myself, hopes he will do at least one more lead vocal on the new album and on a NEW song, because he deserves it and the fans deserve him. He has a beautiful, warm voice, a voice that speaks for his personality.
With "Smashes, Thrashes & Hits" KISS have indeed chosen the very best from the past, an album well worth buying. As for the cover, well, it speaks for itself, it's not very impressive, not very imaginative at any rate, but it soesn't matter that much, as it is the music that counts and that makes them and us proud ☆

ICO VAN RHEENEN

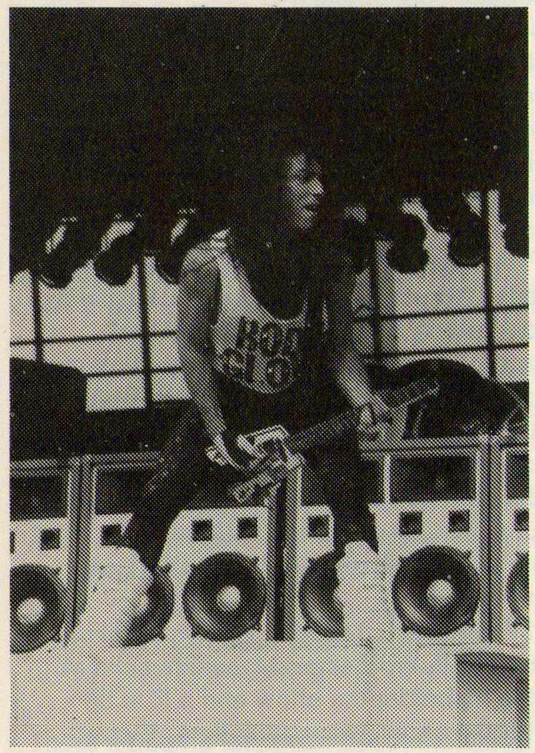
KISS - the real headliners

It was a day like any other British summer day, grey, cloudy, balmy and of course there was the rain. Bands were to come and go before the day was out and I would be on my weary trek home, but firstly I'd come all this way to see one band, The Band, The Real Headliners KISS. Just before the boys were due on, the rain started to fall, but nothing could dampen a true KISS fan's ardour now, the group and followers "still crazy after all these years". Even with limited stage space and the set up from the Japanese tour, KISS still kicked Donington's ass. No outrageous introduction, the band ran on and we were treated to "Deuce", quickly followed by "Love Gun", the song used to open the U.S. leg of the World tour. There was no flashing logo, no fire breathing, no solo's and limited patter between songs, but there was the music. One song after

Ad van Osch

another, old and new in quick succession. "Fits Like A Glove", "Heaven's On Fire", "Cold Gin", "Black Diamond" (without the great ending used on the '83 and '84 tours), "No, No, No,", "Strutter", "Calling Dr. Love", "Crazy Crazy Nights", " I Love It Loud", "Tears Are Falling". I was surprised how many youngsters shook their hands, not knowing the older material, but they were here to see Maiden, as I was here only to see KISS. The band performed "Firehouse", with Stanley adorning the ol' fireman's helmet and breaking the guitar to " Shout It Out Loud". One encore saw the crowd hit with "Lick It Up", Rock and Roll All Night" and of course " Detroit Rock City"- absolutely brilliant performance, which I can't help think it was wasted on the majority of rock? Fans there, I myself loved it.
Carr was very impressive behind the "Chikara" drumkit, Kulick relaxed and played as per record, Simmons looming and threatening as ever, whilst Stanley didn't stop moving and is a joy to watch as the frontman of the band, totally mystifying.
After KISS I returned to the coach; only a KISS can follow a KISS. I heard fireworks in the background and thought to myself merchandise plus effectwise Maiden had learnt from the masters, I wish I'd been at the Marquee!

ROSS HUMPHREYS



Ad van Osch

BRUCE on the loose

exclusive interview with BRUCE KULICK

This interview was done by Marc erven at the Sonesta Hotel in Amsterdam on September 3, the day before the Monsters Of Rock festival in Tilburg.

Bruce, welcome to Holland, how is it going so far? Bruse: "Well, I've only seen the airport and a couple of windmills, but it really feels great being here. Also being in the freer part of Europe again. You know, we really enjoyed being in Hongsry, but it's such a contrast. At some places it's really behond the Iron Curtain. Here's more freedom."

You played the festivals in Schweinfurt and Bochem and at last Donington. Was it great feeling playing such a legendary place like Donington?

Bruce: "My brother had told me about Donington for years, because he once was there with Meatloaf. It was something I was always hoping to be able to do, but it was kinda, I didn't know what it was going to be like playing for that many people. you hear that they get a little crazy, they throw things and there's always rain. I think, besides the tragedy with the two kids who died it was great and I'll never forget it. And the German shows went really well, I was really happy with that."

Where you very nervous before these festivals in Europe?

Bruce: " I was more anxious to do it, I heard about it so much and I found myself more relaxed, playing for that many people, because you don't get so intimate with a hundred thousand people. If you play a small club and people stare at you reight before your eues, than it's more nervewrecking, so for me it was like fun."

Which do you prefer, a small venue or a big one?

Bruce: " Big, I like a lot of people."

After ten years KISS played in Japan in April this year.

How was the first Japan tour for you?

Bruce: " I had a great time, I was hoping all my life to play in Japan and they were so wonderful to us. You know in America you have so many rock bands, but in Japan they treat every band special. We played a longer set and we played older songs, just to please them. It was very exciting."

Is it true that KISS played "I Was Made For Lovin' You" an "Calling Dr. Love" in japan?

Bruce: " Yeah, that's an example. I had to play "Callin Dr. Love" a few times before and the fans and the promoters were asking for " I Was Made For Lovin' You" all the time, so we played it. Last night in Hongary we played it too."

Anthrax was opening act for you in America and some dates in canada. How was it going on tour with such an already popular speedband?

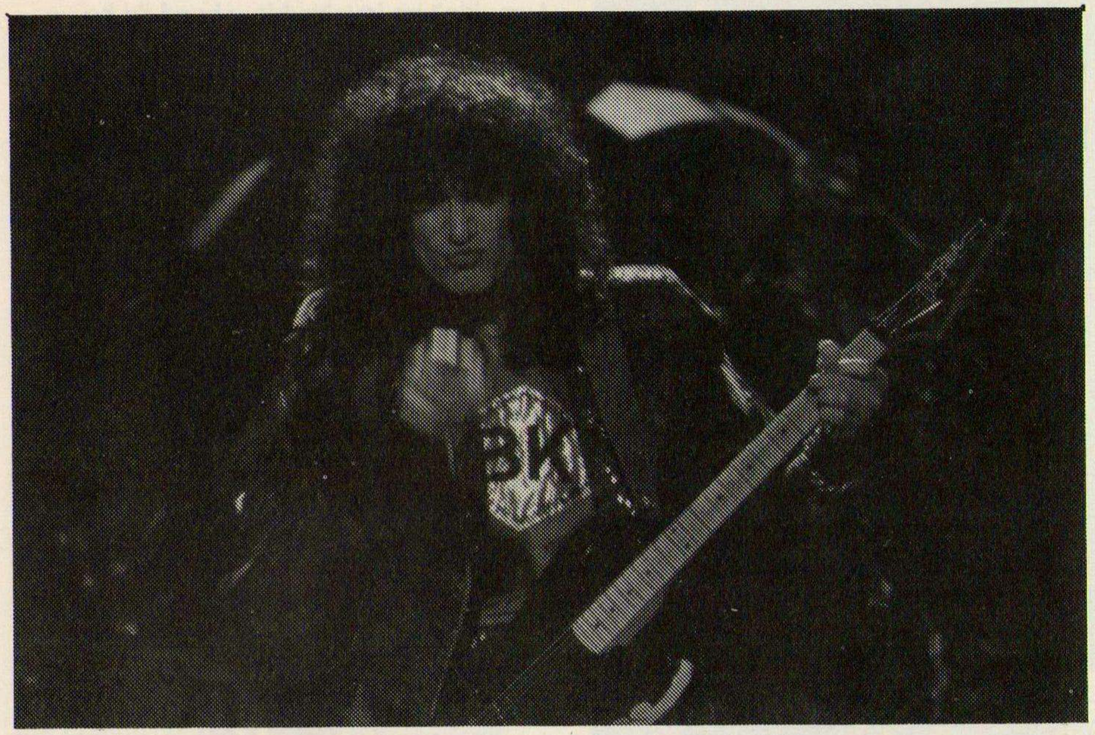
Bruce: "You know, it was interesting. Their attitude is the same as ours, they're just normal guys from New York and that's what KISS is too. The music is definitely different, but it was fun going out with guys who have the same attitude as we have. It was cool."

You released an instructional video called " bruce Kulick Hot Licks". How did you get the idea to make that video?

Bruce: " I always had a desire to do it. As I used to teach guitar it was like teaching a guy like you everything I know, but this was more a huge lesson all at once. It's a little strange not talking to a human being but to a camera instead, but the more I got into to it I really enjoued it. I had a good time with it."

Where was " Turn On The Night" filmed?

Bruce: " In Worcester, Massachusetts. A Little bit before the show and a little bit after the show, twice each time. It went really well and the crowd was great."



Dan Starr

You recently produced the demo of the band Electric Angels.

Where did you meet them and are you planning to do more of these things in the future?

Bruce: " Well, I always want to do more of these things. I was really excited when the opportunity came up, especially because it was in between the American and Japanese tour.

Some of the members used to be in a band called Candy and that's where I knew them from. They changed their style a bit, which I liked better.We did a 3-songdemo and now I know they are doing more tapes. If I didn't produce them I'd probably written something with Jonathan Daniels, the bassplayer. It was real fun to be on the other side."

Is it true that Gene will be playing in the new James Bond movie?

Bruce: " He talked about it once, but he couldn't do it because of our tourschedule. It's good to know that KISS comes first."

There's been a lot of talk about the song "Hide Your Heart" which didn't make it to the "Crazy Nights" album. Why was that?

Bruce: "It's a song that Paul wrote with Desmond Child and ended up on Bonnie Tyler's album. When you do an album you write as much as you can, but there's only 10 or 11 slots on an album. When you do an album you wnat a menu of different things and when there are to many songs in the same style you wind up realizing that if it's valuable for somebody else than it's great. It makes the music live and people hear it."

Why did KISS fire their management?

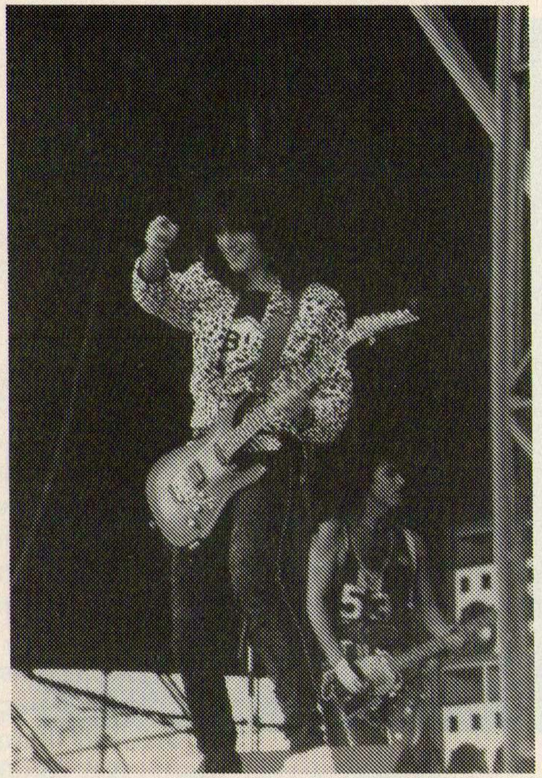
Bruce: "That I know less about than Paul and Gene. I think they weren't happy, so they wanted a change."

Is it true that KISS won an award for the best Heavy Metal band?

Bruce: " There was a magazine that had that, yes, and it was great."

Why did it take so long for KISS to come to Europe again?

Bruce: " I'm sorry about that. But there's so much more involved than just a desire to go somewhere. We waited so we could come in a big way and play for a lot of people and so far I'm very pleased. We're



Ad van Osch

playing places the band had never been before, like Iceland and Hongary.

In the video "Exposed" you only see Gene and Paul. Why didn't it have a bigger part of you and Eric in it, because you are just as important?
Bruce: "You know, I didn't write the script (laughs) and they wanted to focus more on the older stuff. That's fine.
Eric has been a bigger part of KISS than I, but Paul and Gene thought it was better if they told the story, because they have been in the band from the beginning. But I appreciate that you want to see more of Eric and me. For myself there isn't much history in the band, so for me it wasn't devastating or whatever. you have to realize that the whole past means something too."

Will there be a follow-up to "Exposed"?
Bruce: "I don't know, but we get a lot of new stuff, like the concert in Japan that was televised, so it could be."

If KISS ever split up, what do you think you will be doing then?
Bruce: " Well, I think, as music is my life, if I wouldn't be involved in a band I'd be on the other side, producing and writing."

What was you favourite album before you joined KISS?
Bruce: " Destroyer", with "Detroit Rock City" and "Beth", but out of the more harder rock sounding stuff "Creatures Of The Night", which I thought was a tough album.

Is there a song you really like to play live?
Bruce: "There's a lot of good ones actually, but "Cold Gin" is great and "No, No, No," is a challenge because it's really fast."

Would you see yourself making a solo album in the future and what musicians would you like to play with?
Bruce: "Well, I know a lot of good players and I would make a fine album. An instrumental record is not that important to me, because I'm always writing and jamming, but I like the Joey Satriani album. It's a lot of fun. I wanted to do a thing like that, but an album with good songs like KISS does is more important to me than Bruce Kulick solo."

Thanks for the interview and good luck in the future.
Bruce: " Thank You!"

Special thanks to Marc Erven for doing this interview and
contributing it to "Exposed".

BRUCE WITH MARC ERVEN

BRUCE - THANKS!!!

Under the gun

exclusive interview with KISS

Copenhagen, September 15, 1988. This interview with Gene, Paul, Bruce and Eric was done before the second show of the European tour. The band was obviously in a very good mood.
See for yourself, here's the hottest band in the world...KISS!

First of all I'd like to welcome you back to Europe. It's been 4 years. Everyone thought you would be touring Europe on the "Asylum" tour. Why didn't you?
Gene: "I don't know."

You started the European tour by playing at this year's Monsters Of Rock festivals at which you were to be headliner. What happened?
Paul: "We were listed to be headliner in the beginning, but it doesn't matter playing second on te bill, below Iron Maiden. They are good, very good friends of ours, so...Certain bands we wouldn't have played under, but here...no problems."

How was the Donnington concert?
Paul: "Amazing! We had invited our fans and 100.000 of our best friends showed up."
Gene: "We went up there, did our thing and it turned out great. Both sides of the stages, the band and the audience went crazy. So did we do our job? No doubt!"

You always said you wore make-up because you didn't want to be just another rock 'n roll act. Now that you don't wear the make-up anymore, what do you do to be different than other bands?
"I don't think we have to do anything. The true fans are behind us and what we are to the rest- we don't care."

Do you think you have lost the old fans and won new ones because of the image without make-up or because of the new material on albums?
Paul: "I don't know. I think we hold on to our old fans, but still get new ones, but if it's because of this or that, I don't know."

Many people consider kISS as a pop group because of the music in the 80's. Have KISS in your view turned into a poppier band?
Bruce: "Yes."
Paul: "Shut up! (laughs) No, I don't tnink so. We just change our music once in a while, you have to do that."
Gene: "It's the same thing with food; if you keep getting the same stuff it gets boring, but then if you keep the same food but put some pepper in it, it's different and it's interesting."

Now that you have done 21 albums do you find it harder living up to previous albums?
Gene: "Sure, it's always hard to come up with something new and good not only in music, no matter what you do, if you stay around as long as we have it's hard to make you better."

Why are you so obsessed with writing about sex?
Gene: "What's more important?"

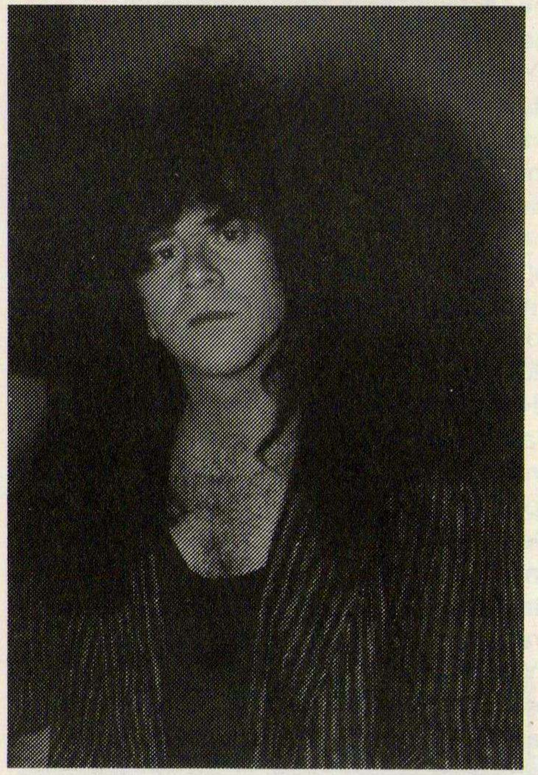
Has your writing process changed over the years?
Paul: "No, we pretty much write as we always have done."
Gene: (laughs)

Gene, I have noticed that you haven't been writing with Paul the last couple of albums. Why is that?
Gene: "I don't know". Paul, why haven't we?"
Paul: " We just have our different things and ways to write a song."

Your latest album "Crazy Nights" is one of your best-sold.
To what do you impute that?
Paul: " We must be better than ever."
(laughs)
Eric: (Falls down from his chair laughing)

How do you choose the songs you'll be playing on tour?

Gene: "We don't!"
How do you keep coming up with original stage sets?
Paul: "It's hard, so we have help from the outside and somehow we always manage to have one when a tour starts."
Is there any particular way you choose your opening acts?
Gene: "If you think back we always have had a more or less unknown band. That's what we look for, a band that has got interesting things inside, then we take them on tour so they can let the good things out. "
Ace and Peter both sang live and on records, why don't Eric and Bruce?
Bruce: "Yeah, we wanna sing!"
Paul: "You're fired!" Bruce, get out of here! In the future they maybe will, but there's a surprise on our next album, which comes out later this year, a sampler KISS album. Just wait for that."
On stage Paul has been the frontman for some years now.
Doesn't that bother the rest of the band?
Gene:" No, we're all in the band, so if you put a note on the back of one of us which says "I'm the frontman", it really doesn't matter."
Peter Criss says the beginning of the end for the original line-up started when you did the solo albums in 1978. Is that the fact or what else was the reason for the end of that line-up?
Paul: "Well, if that's the way Peter sees it that's his business. Whatever it was, it's the past and I'm here for the future."
What do you see in KISS that wasn't there when you started?
Paul: "Bruce and Eric!!!" (laughs)
Have the members of KISS changed over the years?
Paul: " Of course, we all do more or less."
Do all of you still practice regularly? What are your rehearsals like?
Paul: " Oh yeah, rehearsels are fun. They're really fun. I think people who get a chance to hang around are real surprised at how much time we spend laughing. It's real relaxed. It;s real intense when we're playing, then once in a while it falls apart. It's like when we're on stage, it's just fun."
What keeps KISS going strong?
Gene: "KISS."
How's the tour going so far?
Eric: "Yeah, how is it going?"
(laughs)
Eric, are there still fans who can you "the drummer"?
Eric: "Yeah, it pisses me off. magazines still write so, but there's nothing I can do about it. But sure it bothers me."


Dan Starr

Bruce, when you first joined KISS, was it tough for you to fit in?
Bruce: "When I originally came in, I was only meant to be temporary, so I desperately wanted to fit in as soon as possible, because once I realized the "rock star" thing, I didn't want to leave. During "Animalize" I felt comfortable, but it took the " Asylum" LP to really make me feel like a part of the band."

Is there anything at all you would give up playing?
Bruce: "That's a tough one. I don't think so, 'cause even when I put the guitar down for a couple of weeks I don't feel the same. So, no!."
As KISS guitarist you had to give up your normalcy with this kind of life style. What's your secret for staying sane?
Bruce: " I have to remind myself that not many people get an opportunity to do what they love to do, which for me is playing and actually turn on a lot of people while doing it.
I simply have to remember that I'm real lucky."
Could you describe the other guys in the band in one or two words?
Bruce: (laughing) " O.K. Eric is- he'll hate this- but Eric
is cute. Paul is the centre of attraction, he likes to have a party around him. Gene is special, monsterous, our monster."
If it all ended tomorrow, where would each of you be headed?
Gene:" I think I would be at the nearest corner with a raincoat, opening it up and screaming: Hey lady, look what I've got!"
Gene, you have said many times that Sweden has become your favourite place because of it's girls. What's so special about the Swedish girls?
Gene: "Have you ever done it with a Swede? Well, now you know!"

Nico Ciccarone

Paul, you and Gene recently joined Ace on stage in New York to do "Deuce". How was it to be on stage with him again?
Paul: "Great, it was really fun. But don't get any ideas, we're not becoming "one" again!"
Bruce, during the fall/winter of the "Asylum" tour you had your first real guitar solo since you joined the group. Where you nervous to have the whole stage in the beginning?
Bruce: " No, 'cause I had been on big stages for so long, but, yes,it was a bit different to have the whole attraction, but nervous- no."
For the "Asylum" tour you also got the new huge logo. What made you decide to replace the old one?
Paul: " The show had grown bigger, so we needed the logo to grow too!"
KISS have been against a video release with only video singles for a long time, but now there's the "Crazy Nights" 3-track videotape. Have you changed your mind?
Paul: "Well... what can I say?"
Will there be an "Exposed 2"?
Paul: "Yes, probably very soon."
Bruce, you once said you think Paul is one of the world's greatist frontman. What makes him so special?"
Bruce: "He can turn a whole show and it's audience into something I have never seen anybody else can or have done."
Is there anything else we should know of?
Paul: "Yes, we are on tour now and it's called the "Crazy Nights" tour!" (laughs)

Interview by Tommy Lee.

Paul,Gene, Bruce and Eric, thanks for your time and co-operation, it's more appreciated than you can imagine!
(Ico van Rheenen, Tommy Lee)

Dan Starr

A pure KISS

Wembley Arena, September 24 and 25. KISS' return to the U.K. after 4 years. I had been looking forward to these shows, because they were the only 2 indoor shows I was to see and as the audience at the Donington festival responded so well to KISS' performance, I expected an even wilder audience and two crazy crazy nights. And that's what they were.

After we had queued for almost an hour, whilst it kept on raining, we fetched our reservations and went inside. Opening act Kings of the Sun, a four-piece band from Australia who recently released their debut album, were already getting through their set, doing songs like "Serpentine" and their most recent single " Black Leather". They were o.k., but you could feel the anxciousness to see the four New Yorkers that night, so the band wasn't really paid attention to.

Then came what we all had been waiting for: the hottest band in the world. When the lights went sown, everybody immediately stood up or jumped on their seats. People went nuts before they had even started. Some people jumped over barriers between the different sections of the hall and the security couldn't stop them, because they were to busy getting people off the seats. I expected them to open with "Deuce" like they had done at the festivals, but they began with "Love Gun", like on the U.S. your. There was no logo unfortunately, only a wall of amps and a plain drumriser. When we met Eric at the hotel he stated he missed the logo too. (Thanks Eric, for coming down to see us, you will remain as a special part of our London trip). I guess the European halls are too small for the huge logo, but they could have brought the "small" logo as used before 1985 along. But KISS proved they were capable of driving the crowd totally nuts without a gigantic stage

Nico Ciccarone

set, or pyro or whatever. Just pure rock and roll. But to be honest, a little more pyro and visual effects would not have been out of place.
They were soon into "Fits Like A Glove', with everyone throwing their fists into the air and singing along each verse. Gene loved it and had the crowd clap along more than a few times. "Heaven's On Fire" was next. Everyone knew the song by heart and helped out Paul with the chorus line perfectly. This really got the crowd going and I loved to see the boys were getting such a great response. It's crazy being so concerned about the audience's reactions like I am, but having read so much about the poor ticket sales in the States and the down-going reviews of the shows I was anxious to see for myself how the band was welcomed and I was glad to see my expectations were right.
Next were "Cold Gin" and "Balck Diamond", two golden oldies.
The latter was in my view one of the highlights of the shows.
Paul sat down on the drumriser and began to play beautiful intro and as the crowd clapped along he lengthened it, like he used to do in 1980. Personally I really get a kick out of the song, especially when Eric starts to sing. How I love to hear him sing. His voice is warm, sometimes raw and powerful at the same time. Unfortunately the song was cut short again, but it still remains one of the best songs of both nights. I felt a bit sorry for him not being able to play his solo, as KISS had chosen to play a set of no less than 19 songs, but he started to do his solo at the rest of the shows after the London shows! Way to go , Eric.
Next came a new song: " Bang, Bang, You". Frankly, I wasn't really impressed by this song on the album, but live it's heavier and effective. However, I don't think it will be added to the songlist permanently.
Then another song from the "Crazy Nights" album: "No, No, No" introduced with a longer solo by Bruce. I was amazed seeing Bruce live after having seen him only on the European tour in 1984, when he was just a stand-in for Mark St. John. He moved a lot more, driving the crowd wild by making faces, sticking out his

Nico Ciccarone

tongue one or two times and of course by playing the guitar perfectly.
He is one hell of a guitarplayer and magazines like "Guitar Player" agree with me.
"No,No,No" is a great song, though I prefer Gene's clear voice as on the record.
"Here's another oldie, but a goodie" Paul said when he introduced "Firehouse", a song they had started to play occasionally on the American leg of the tour, but had not done for almost 5 years. I expected Gene to breathe fire, like I heatrd he had done at some previous shows, but unfortunately he wasn't allowed by the local fire marshalls, but he did do it at the rest of the U.K. shows. At the end af the song a number of sirens went off, which gave a beautiful lighteffect and a deafening sound through the hall.
The middle part was a bunch of KISS'

Nico Ciccarone

greatist hits parted by "Deuce", which they hadn't done since they wore make-up, before adding it to the set on this tour. "Deuce" is a real opener, I think, maybe even the best, according to the audience's reactions at the festivals. I just hope they will include it in the set in the future as well, hopefully as the opening song.

Paul introduced "Crazy, Crazy Nights" by thanking the British fans for making the song such a big hit. The performance of the song brought the roof of Wembley Arena down. What a sight! All 8000-9000 fans and a few less at the second night throwing their arms into the air, jumping, dancing and singing every word along. "Tears Are Falling", the only song from "Asylum" they did, was great and did well. A big surprise was " I Was Made For Lovin' You". Paul said that a lot of people reacted surprised, because they had added the song to the set, but " Basically it's just a very good song" he said. It is, and everyone else thought so. All those headbangers were singing along each verse and banging their heads to the song. Funny in a way, as the song has been criticized by so many KISS fans in the past. Without justice apperently. "Reason To Live" was one of the highlights in my view. Bruce played keyboards alternated by guitar fantastically. The purple and blue lightning created a wonderful sight and atmosphere. I remember noticing the sound of Paul's voice being slightly distorted. The second night it was better though. I also remember watching the four while thinking how much they mean to me and how much I love their music and that they will always be part of my life. I think every real KISS fan knows that feeling.

After these 5 more serious minutes the lights went down for almost 10 seconds. I saw Gene climbing up the speakers on the right of the stage and when the lights went up again Gene was standing on them before the mike, whilst Eric led us into "I Love It Loud". The crowd sang along very loud and Gene loved it. The atmosphere in the hall had risen to a climax. I love to watch Gene, he is an animal with a great sense of humour and a lovely way of showing his sympathic kind of arrogance. At the second show someone in the crowd handed him a condom and it was great to see the fun he had showing it to the crowd.

After a perfect version of "Strutter" they played "Shout It Out Loud", the last song before they went off, one of my all-time favourites. I am glad they added the song to the set again, because live this song really kicks ass!

The lights went down, but we didn't have to wait too long before the foursome treated us to 3 encores, of which the first was "Lick It Up". No long rap at the beginning, which was characterizing, because Paul didn't talk half as much as he used to. Though I love to listen to his raps I rather hear 1 or 2 songs more. then we were into " Rock And Roll All Night". I have definitely never heard a crowd sing along so hard! At one point Gene said: "Holy Shit" when the crowd answered the band with the chorus line. Super! The second night the audience wasn't as loose as at the first show, though KISS' performance sure wasn't causal. The first night they also played longer, but they seemed to enjoy themselves equally much the second night. Both shows ended with almost every KISS fan's all-time favourite "Detroit Rock City".

About ten smoke columns went off when the boys ran off-stage.

Two nights of rock and roll and partying in it's purest form came to an end and remain in my memory and heart forever ☆

ICO VAN RHEENEN

Dan Starr

Comet hits Pittsburgh

America celebrates it's Independance Day on July 4 and the day ends in fireworks displays in the cities across the 50 states. However the following day Pittsburgh saw a Comet on it's skyline. It was the first time Frehley's Comet came to the city and they were opening for a veteran band: Iron Maiden.

The day began at 2:30 in the afternoon at Eide's Comics & Records store where Ace and Company held an in-store record signing. The employees and records representatives didn't expect a heavy turnout (due to the lack of advertisement). They were shocked when about 500 fans turned out to see this up and coming band. The store was filled with a line of fans with groups of 10 being let in every 5 minutes. What was only supposed to last an hour ended up being almost 2 hours long.

Later the day the Civic Arena held only about 8.500 people (no where near a sell-out).

Most of them were waiting to see Maiden, but at 7.34 some "new guys" took the stage. Ace was in the center with a white cutoff "Conch Rock Cafe (Bahamas) shirt, black pants and boots. Tod was to his left with a red shirt, turquoise pants and red boots. John on stage right wore a purple shirt, black pants and boots. Newcomer Jamie Oldaker was in back of his drumkit with amps built into triangles on either side of him.

As they took the stage, the chords of "Fractured Mirror" rang out until the arena was flooded with "Rip it Out".

The Frehley's Comet logo was hung above the drums about 20 feet.

Next came a new song, "Juvenile Delinquent"- didn't impress me much on the album, but live the song really kicks. Even though the crowd wasn't real into Ace, he got them to "raise up their fists".

After a short greeting, they proceeded into "Something Moved". Tods vocal range and abilities make him the perfect compliment to Ace. Then Ace introduced the first song he wrote ever recorded on an album, "cold Gin". Even though KISS has kept this song alive (and it's a classic!), hearing the Comet play it was refreshing. "Time Ain't Runnin Out" was next on the list and was one of the best songs of the night, not to mention on the album "Second Sighting".

Then came what I feel were the best songs of the show. Tod started the crowd clapping and Ace appeared stage left and was holding his guitar with flashing lights inside. This is a remainder from his heyday with KISS; all old KISS fans knew it had to be "New York Groove". Next was an MTV favourite, a song everyone knew..."Rock Soldiers". Again, hands and fists were held high, but still the crowd's participation was no better than favourable.

Tod came back on vocals as Ace introduced the rocker "Breakout". After which Ace pulled out his black Les Paul guitar and got the audience to go "Insane", followed by a classic Ace Frehley blistering guitar solo. Although the smoking guitar routine has been used before (and copied by the likes of Tom Scholz among the others), it's a patented Ace Frehley gimmick and nobody does it better.

"We Got Your Rock" was the final number of the set and has the possibilities of becoming a Comet anthem. After the lights went down, the chant of "Ace, Ace,Ace,..." started and even Maiden fans around me wanted more. "Rocket Ride" was the encore, but not before Ace commented that he was back and wouldn't disappear again.

Many people including myself were shocked that "Into The Night" was not part of the set. Though the show was over, the night wasn't. Three friends and myself went to the Hilton hotel where we were having a refresher in the bar. We thought we made the wrong choice and were about to leave when Jamie Oldaker walked in. Ace followed about 15 minutes later, while Jamie was already filling us in. We were told that altough "Into The Night" wasn't performed, they played longer than expected. Jamie also talked about getting into producing and only performing 'till he's 40·he was 38 at the time .

Ace didn't talk much, but he did say Pittsburgh had changed in the 9 years he had been away. He watched the fireworksdisplay and said the scene was beautiful. We also exchanged some jokes, which I don't remember. However, the ever familiar laugh of his will be echoing in my ears forever ☆

MIKE PLATEK

Mickie Newnam

9 lives of the Cat

revealing interview with PETER CRISS

Redondo Beach, Ca. December 8, 1988. Today we had the great pleasure of meeting with Peter Criss. He was very kind to take time out of his busy schedule and he was with us for over two and a half hours. During this time, he posed for photos, signed a few rare KISS items and spoke with us about the old days with KISS, his early life in New York and he answered every question directly, even when his answers entered into emotional or controversial area. He also previewed many previously secret stories about his past and present associations with the other founding members of KISS, all of which and more will be revealed in his soon-to-be-published book "A Face Without KISS".

The following interview touches upon many subjects, thanks to Peter's ability to speak at length and in detail. Here's Peter Criss...

You left KISS in 1980, but you were finished sooner, weren't you?

Peter: "Yes, in 1978 started the break up, I already wanted to go out. The cancer set in when the four of us did the solo albums. At first it seemed great, because I could do what I always wanted to do and that was soul rock. But what happened was that 4 real heavy authentic maniacs took the energy separate instead of in yhe centre where it should be. All of a sudden the ego was there and everything we were doing was becoming commercial, like the insane movie. I saw us loosing "Destroyer" and "Alive", we were only

singing bullshit. We lost it. I escaped into drugs and so did Ace, Gene escaped to sex obviously (laughs) and Paul to himself."

You did 2 solo albums after you left KISS, "Out Of Control" and "Let Me Rock You". Can you tell us something about them?

Peter: "Do you think the three of them would let me have my succes?. Especially with "Beth", they hated me for it. Gene would say that " I Was Made For Lovin' You" outsold "Beth".

That's true, but "Beth" was much more popular. It was the people's choise and it's still on the radio, people sing it and love it. Now they even let Eric do it. They made it tough for me and when I did " Out Of Control", I admit that I was out of control, because I was out of my fucking mind and doing a lot of drugs. I thought "Let Me Rock You" would do well for me, because it was better, but U fell apart and fell into drugsland, where I lived for quite a lot of years."

The 3 solo albums are very different from the stuff KISS used to do. Did you enjoy playing KISS songs?

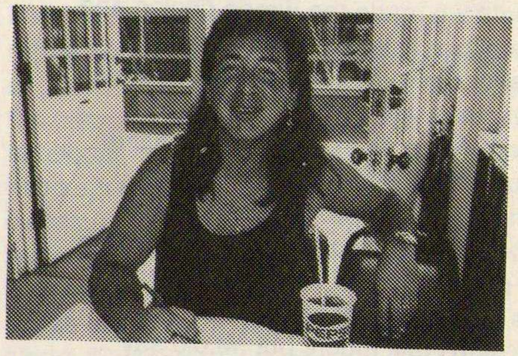
Peter: " I was a jazz drummer at first and later I played everything.I was into the Rolling Stones and they were into Led Zeppelin. When you listen carefully, you'll hear that I played like Charlie Watts in the beginning and that's where my heart lies. Later I practiced more styles."

Can you tell us something about the time Gene and Paul started to decide everything themselves and you and Ace didn't have anything to say?

Peter: "No, we were very democratic. We all had a vote and in the beginning we talked with each other and that kept us a family. But Ace and I always voted together and Paul and gene obviously voted together."

The contrast between you and Ace on one side and Paul and Gene on the other side is interesting, espesially when you did the Tom Schneider interview.

Peter: " Wasn't that great? Ace was so drunk! I thought the chaos was great. Gene was pissed and Paul was in a shock. But nobody could stop him. After the program was broken up in the middle



Ace was even worse, he was wrecking the place! We were all very different, but that was the chemistry! When Ace and I left that fell apart."

Do you have any boring or sad memories from the days with KISS?

Peter: "Boring was putting the make-up on every day, sometimes even 2 or 3 times a day. Sad was when Ace almost died when he got electrocuted and when my drumroady blew up his hand when he tested my exploding drumsticks."

What do you remember from the first meeting with Paul and Gene?

Peter: "They were assholes!
(laughs). Gene sounded like an asshole on the phone, but that interested me. The first time we played was a disaster, but from the second time it became better and better."

What do you remember of Ace coming in?

Peter: " I loved him! Ace is one of a kind. Paul and Gene hated him, but I pushed for him and they soon realized that he was great. It was all meant to be, I think."

After the 2 solo albums people don't know what you have been up to, while people, especially in Europe are very curious what you are doing?

Peter: " That's great to hear. After " Let Me Rock You" I was doing a lot of drugs and I was not myself. I did the Criss/

Pendridge Alliance a few years after that. Stan Pendridge, who I played in an band with, called Chelsea form 68 to '70, is still a friend of mine and I don't blame him for anything, but he got me into real heavy trouble, into drugs. Stan and I can be in a room and write tunes together, but we don't belong together in the real world, because we are such bad influences on each other. The drugs broke us up.

I lived in Nashville for 4 months. I could and should have done country & western with some of the best musicians, but we wanted to do rock 'n roll and I tell you, there's no way you can break rock 'n roll in Nashville! We did a small club tour. I sang up in front and did percussion and learnt to play all kinds of percussion instruments very well. But I soon realized that I belonged behind my toms. I have a beautiful set of Pearls, I signed with DH Company and I have only a 6-piece kit. The less the best, I don't need a giant drumkit, like Eric Carr. I use double pedals on a single bass drum, which is great.

Balls of fire, the band I played with in '86 looked like a piece of cake. The band was good and they promised us everything. But when Jane, the vocalist started to act like a mother, which was delirious, I realized I wanted to be back with men again, which may sound chauvinistic, but it's the truth.

I also became a father and I haven't lost sight of my 7-year-old daughter, since she was born. I want to spend time with my kid. Debbie, my wife, has her own career and is making good money."

You have also written a book, haven't you?

Peter: "Yes, I have written a book, which is ready to go.

It's got great stories, great photos, stuff never heard before, it's all the truth and I literally nail my ass totally to the wall so that I make sure when I nail their asses they can't take me to court to sue me. I even have a crime lawyer. But it's about me, about my life, about the bands I was in, the gangs Brooklyn, dealing drugs, how I got to KISS and that whole life and then out of KISS up to date.

It's got a lot of funny and real sad stories."

Did you find writing about all these experiences was kind of therapeutic?

Peter: "Absolutely, 100%. It was self-analyses. I put a lot of work and truth into it and when it finally comes out I think you"ll like it."

Will the book be published in Europe too?

Peter: "Yes, I hope it'll be published in Europe. I guess a lot of people heard about me from Paul and Gene's point of view and they started to believe that and that's sad, because they almost tried to burry us like we never existed. Gene called me about the greatest hits album and didn't tell me they would gonna re-do it. I took for granted that if they would gonna do a greatest hits album they would give the fans what they want, give them the hits. He didn't tell me so he said he won't do it if I won't take a break from my publishing. I said: "Fuck the publishing". What's a few thousand dollar as long as a few thousand KISS fans get to hear me in their living-room. So I got tricked. But I learned that being angry for things like this is not healthy. So I'm a lot happier now. I'm even gonna start my own band and write songs about expierences I lived through. I even wrote a cool tune called " The Days Of My Greasepaint" that's about KISS."

What kind of music do you want to play?

Peter: " Good rock 'n roll! I'd like a bassplayer, rhythem guitarist and leadguitarist. I've always liked the Beatles and KISS set up. I don't really know what's waiting for me. I don't intend to have a lead singer, but if I'd find someone like David Lee Roth I'd definitely take him.

I well still sing "Beth" and a few KISS songs I sang, but basically I want us all to sing. I am now starting a band that's real team on stage. I'd soon have a guy that plays fairly decent and have a great per-

sonality than a guy that plays absolutely fucking great and sucks in personality, because you'll have to live with these guys.
I have a good manager and I'm back on track. I exercise to keep in shape to go on tour again. I don't smoke, my drinking is very limited and I haven't done drugs in the last 5 years or so. I practice 2 hours a day. I am also to do a video with Debbie's brother who works for a big company. At the end of it there will be a big surprise, which will blow every KISS fan's mind in the world. A camera will go up from the heel of a boot (laughs) , that's a hint, and take it's time to go up the boot and at the end someone may turn around. It'll be entertaining as well as instructional. I'll play my ass off on it. Somehow you won't get rid of me!"

Back to KISS for just a few more questions. After you left KISS there's been some bad feelings between you and KISS. What's your relationship with the members of KISS?
Peter: (laughs) "I'm not talking Ace. I could have asked him to play on my solo albums, but by the time I left, he wasn't with me anymore but with them. He thought he got more power to do more songs per record, but Paul and Gene took the power instead of him, but he didn't know that. He didn't have anyone to party or to get high with, so he escaped into drugs too. Quiting was the only thing he could do. When I did the gig in LA with him, everyone thought it was obvious that I would be Ace's drummer, but he didn't even offer me to play a song on his album, because I would for him.
Gene pulled the shit off with the "Beth" thing and Paul I haven't seen in 8 years. If he walked here now I'd go and ask him what's happening. I dropped all the feeling I had against him. I'm too old for that shit."

What are your feelings about a reunion tour?
Peter: " I doubt it. Sad, because there's a whole generation that missed us. I would have been willing to put up the make-up one more time for them, for 2 or 3 months and play the major arenas. It'd be super. It would be huge. We'd make a lot of money, we'd get our respest back, all the KISS fans would love us, all the old albums would sell and above that I'd do a double live album and a video. Both us and KISS fans would benefit by it too. But what am I talking."

What if Gene and Paul asked you?
Peter: " They'd have to ask me, personally. The four of us in a room, look at each other and deal with it as men, Get it all over with and get it all out and then shake hands on it."

What do you think of the new direction KISS has gone?
Peter: "Terrible! I'm not happy with them."

Have you heard the "Smashes, Thrashes, & Hits" album?
Peter: "No, I don't want to hear it. I heard about it through fans and through Vinnie."

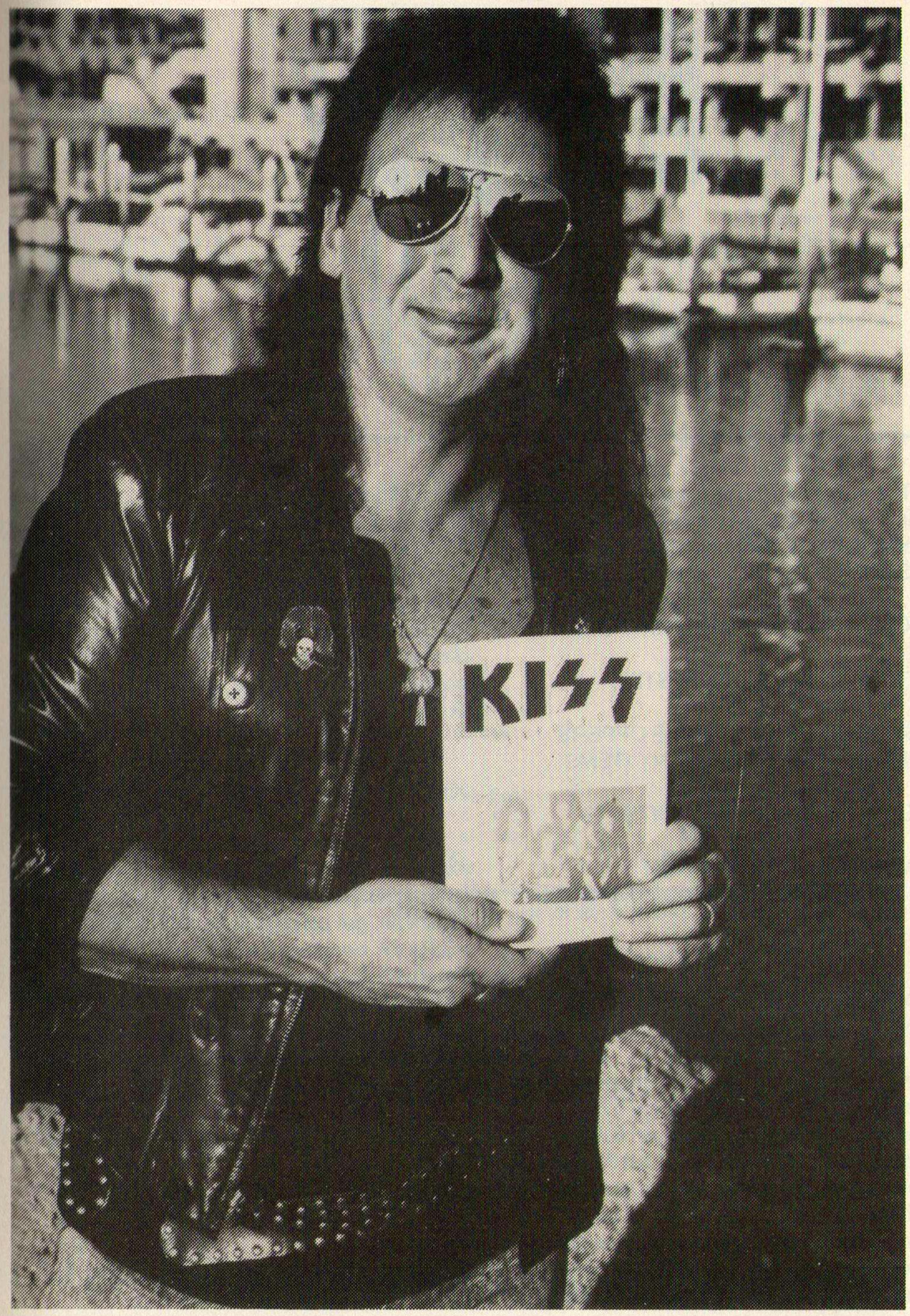
Vinnie Vincent?
Peter: "Yeah I love that man and I love the negative reactions." (laughs)

So you think it's time to move on?
Peter: "Yeah, absolutely. it's easy and comfortable to live in the glorydays, but reality is what's ahead. My future looks good, because I feel good. I wanna play good rock 'n roll again!"

We would like to thank Peter very much for taking so much time with us and also being so nice and honest with us. We wish him and also his wife Debbie and daughter Jenilee all the best for the future, as I'm sure all his fans do as well.
Look for his book; I'm sure we will read many shocking and surprising stories in it and will also learn some very interesting new facts about Peter and KISS. There's no doubt, the Cat is back!

interview by Charlie Wangberg & Dan Starr

photos by Dan Starr



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